

REMARKS

Prior to a first Office Action in this application, Applicants request that claims 16, 19, 21, 23, 27, 28 and 30 be canceled without prejudice, and that claims 17, 20 and 29 be amended. Claims 17, 18, 20, 22, 24-26 and 29 remain in the application. Entry of these amendments is respectfully requested.

These amendments to the claims do not involve any new matter or objectionable changes. These amendments were discussed with Examiner Wang in a telephonic interview with Applicants' attorney, Karen Canady, on September 22, 2005 (the Examiner's supervisor also participated in this interview), and confirmed in a subsequent telephonic interview with Examiner Wang on September 23, 2005.

Claim 17 has been amended to replace "amino acid sequence described by SEQ ID NO: 21" with "amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 21", in accordance with a suggestion by the Examiner to clarify the claim language.

Claims 20 and 29 have been amended to delete reference to non-elected subject matter.

Claim 29 has also been amended to delete "pharmaceutical".

Claims 18, 22 and 24-26 are not amended at this time.

The remaining claims have been canceled.

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is now in good order for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner believe minor matters still remain that can be resolved in a telephone interview, the Examiner is urged to call Applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

GATES & COOPER LLP  
Attorneys for Applicant(s)

Howard Hughes Center  
6701 Center Drive West, Suite 1050  
Los Angeles, California 90045  
(310) 641-8797

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By: 

Name: Karen S. Canady  
Reg. No.: 39,927